

THE MILITARY MONITOR,

AND

AMERICAN REGISTER.

"THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END."

VOL. I.]

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1812.

[No. 15

THE MILITARY MONITOR

AND

AMERICAN REGISTER,

By T. O'CONNOR AND S. WALL,

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Official.

DOCUMENTS

Accompanying the President's Message to Congress.

(Continued from our last.)

The Secretary of State to Mr. RUSSELL.
Dated, Department of State,
August 21, 1812.

[Extract.]

My last letter to you was on the 27th July and was forwarded by the British packet, the Althea, under the special protection of Mr. Baker. The object of that letter, and of the next preceding one of the 26th June, was to invest you with power to suspend by an armistice, on such fair conditions as it was presumed could not be rejected, the operation of the war, which had been brought on the United States by the injustice and violence of the British government. At the moment of the declaration of war, the President, regretting the necessity which produced it, looked to its termination and provided for it, and happy will it be for both countries, if the dis-

position felt, and the advances thus made on his part, are entertained and met by the British government in a similar spirit.

You have been informed by Mr. Graham of what passed in my late absence from the city, in an interview between Mr. Baker and him, in consequence of a despatch from the British government to Mr. Foster received at Halifax, just before he sailed for England, and transmitted by him to Mr. Baker, relating to a proposed suspension or repeal of the British orders in council: You will have seen by the note forwarded to you by Mr. Graham, of Mr. Baker's communication to him, that Mr. Foster had authorised him to state, that the commanders of the British forces at Halifax would agree to a suspension, after a day to be fixed, of the condemnation of prizes, to await the decision of both governments, without however preventing captures on either side. It appears also, that Mr. Foster had promised to communicate with Sir George Prevost and to advise him to propose to our government an armistice.

Sir George Prevost has since proposed to General Dearborn, at the suggestion of Mr. Foster, a suspension of offensive operations by land, in a letter which was transmitted by the General to the Secretary at War. A provisional agreement was entered into between General Dearborn and Col. Baynes, the British adjutant general, bearer of Gen. Prevost's letter, that neither party should act offensively, before the decision of our government should be taken on the subject.

Since my return to Washington, the document alluded to in Mr. Foster's despatch, as finally decided on by the British government, has been handed to me by Mr. Baker, with a remark, that its authenticity might be relied on. Mr. Baker added, that it was not improbable

that the admiral at Halifax might agree likewise to a suspension of captures, though he did not profess or appear to be acquainted with his sentiments on that point.

On full consideration of all the circumstances which might merit attention, the President regrets that it is not in his power to accede to the proposed arrangement. The following are among the principal reasons which have produced this decision.

1st. The President has no power to suspend judicial proceedings on prizes. A capture, if lawful, vests a right, over which he has no controul. Nor could he prevent captures otherwise than by an indiscriminate recall of the commissions granted to our privateers, which he could not justify under existing circumstances.

2d. The proposition is not made by the British government, nor is there any certainty that it would be approved by it. The proposed arrangement, if acceded to, might not be observed by the British officers themselves if their government, in consequence of the war, should give them instructions of a different character, even if they were given without a knowledge of the arrangement.

3d. No security is given, or proposed, as to the Indians, nor could any be relied on. They have engaged in the war on the side of the British government, and are now prosecuting it with vigor, in their usual savage mode. They can only be restrained by force, when once let loose, and that force has already been ordered out for the purpose.

4th. The proposition is not reciprocal, because it restrains the United States from acting where their power is greatest, and leaves Great Britain at liberty, and gives her time to augment her forces in our neighborhood.

5th. That as a principal object of the

war is to obtain redress against the British practice of impressment, an agreement to suspend hostilities, even before the British government is heard from on that subject, might be considered a relinquishment of that claim.

6th. It is the more objectionable, and of the less importance, in consideration of the instructions heretofore given you, which, if met by the British government, may have already produced the same result in a greater extent and more satisfactory form.

I might add that the declaration itself, is objectionable in many respects, particularly the following. 1st. because it asserts a right in the British government to restore the Orders in Council, or any part thereof, to their full effect on a principle of retaliation on France, under circumstances of which she alone is to be judge; a right which this government cannot admit, especially in the extent heretofore claimed, and acted on by the British government.

2d. That the repeal is founded exclusively on the French Decree of 26th. of April 1811, by which the repeal of the Decrees of Berlin and Milan, announced on the 5th. August 1810, to take effect on the first of November of that year, at which time their operation actually ceased, is disregarded, as are the claims of the United States arising from the repeal on that day, even according to the British pledge.

3d. That even if the United States had no right to claim the repeal of the British orders in council prior to the French Decree of the 28th April 1811, nor before the notification of that decree to the British government on the 20th. of May, of the present year, the British repeal ought to have borne date from that day, and been subject to none of the limitations attached to it.

These remarks on the declaration of the Prince Regent, which are not pursued with rigour, nor in the full extent which they might be, are applicable to it, in relation to the state of things which existed before the determination of the U. States to resist the aggressions of the British government by war. By that determination the relations between the two countries have been altogether changed, and it is only by a determination of the war, or by measures leading to it, by consent of both governments, that its calamities can be closed or mitigated.—It is not now a question whether the declaration of the Prince Regent is such as ought to have produced a repeal of the non-importation act, had war not been declared, because by the declaration and war, that question is superseded, it of the non importation act having been

continued in force by Congress, and become a measure of war, and among the most efficient, it is no longer subject to controul of the executive in the sense, and for the purpose for which it was adopted.

The declaration however, of the Prince Regent will not be without effect. By repealing the Orders in Council without reviving the blockade of May 1806, or any other illegal blockade, as is understood to be the case, it removes a great obstacle to an accommodation. The President considers it an indication of a disposition in the British government to accommodate the differences which subsist between the countries, and I am instructed to assure you, that, if such disposition really exists, and is persevered in, and is extended to other objects, especially the impressment, a durable and happy peace and reconciliation cannot fail to result from it.

Mr. Russell to Lord Castlereagh.

LONDON, 24th Aug. 1812.

My Lord—It is only necessary, I trust, to call the attention of your Lordship to a review of the conduct of the government of the United States to prove incontrovertibly its unceasing anxiety to maintain the relations of peace and friendship with Great Britain. Its patience in suffering the many wrongs which it has received and its perseverance in endeavoring by amicable means to obtain redress, are known to the world. Despairing at length of receiving this redress from the justice of the British government, to which it had so often applied in vain, and feeling that a further forbearance would be a virtual surrender of interests and rights essential to the prosperity and independence of the nation confided to its protection, it has been compelled to discharge its high duty by an appeal to arms. While, however, it regards this course as the only one, which remained for it to pursue with a hope of preserving any portion of that kind of character which constitutes the vital strength of every nation, yet it is still willing to give another proof of the spirit which has uniformly distinguished its proceedings, by seeking to arrest, on terms consistent with justice and honor, the calamities of war.—It has, therefore, authorized me to stipulate with his Britannic Majesty's government an armistice to commence at or before the expiration of sixty days after the signature of the Instrument providing for it, on condition that the orders in council be repealed, and no illegal blockades to be substituted to them, and that orders be immediately given to discontinue the impressment of persons from American vessels, and to restore the citizens of the United States already impressed; it being moreover well understood that the British government will assent to enter into definitive arrangements, as soon as may be, on these and every other difference, by a treaty to be concluded either at London or Washington, as on an impartial consideration of existing circumstances shall be deemed most expedient.

As an inducement to Great Britain to discontinue the practice of impressment from American vessels, I am authorized to give assurance that a law shall be passed (to be reciprocal) to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the public or commercial service of the United States.

It is sincerely believed that such an arrangement would prove more efficacious in securing to Great Britain her seamen than the practice of impressment so derogatory to the sovereign attributes of the United States, and so incompatible with the personal rights of their citizens.

Your lordship will not be surprised that I have presented the revocation of the orders in council as a preliminary to the suspension of hostilities, when it is considered that the act of the British government of the 23d of June last, ordaining that revocation, is predicated on conditions, the performance of which is rendered impracticable by the change which is since known to have occurred in the relations between the two countries. It cannot now be expected that the government of the United States will immediately on due notice of that act, revoke or cause to be revoked its acts, excluding from the waters and harbors of the U. S. all British armed vessels, and interdicting commercial intercourse with Great Britain. Such a procedure would necessarily involve consequences too unreasonable and extravagant to be for a moment presumed. The order in council of the 22d of June last will therefore according to its own terms be null and of no effect, and a new act of the British government, adapted to existing circumstances, is obviously required for the effectual repeal of the orders in council of which the United States complain.

The government of the United States considers indemnity for injuries received under the orders in council and others edicts, violating the rights of the American nation, to be incident to their repeal and it believes that satisfactory provision will be made in the definite treaty, to be hereafter negotiated, for this purpose.

The conditions now offered to the British government for the termination of the war by an armistice as above stated are so moderate and just in themselves, and so entirely consistent with its interest and honor, that a confident hope is indulged that it will not hesitate to accept them: in so doing it will abandon no right: it will sacrifice no interests: it will abstain only from violating the rights of the United States, and, in return, it will restore peace with the power from whom a friendly commercial intercourse so many advantages are to be derived.

Your lordship is undoubtedly aware of the serious difficulties with which the prosecution of the war, even for a short period, must necessarily embarrass all future attempts at accommodation. Passions exasperated by injuries—alliances or conquests on terms which forbid their abandonment—will inevitably hereafter embitter and protract a contest which might now be so easily and happily terminated.

Deeply impressed with these truths, I cannot but persuade myself that his royal highness the Prince Regent will take into his early consideration the propositions, herein made on behalf of the United States, and decide on them in a spirit of conciliation and justice.

I have the honor to be, with high consideration, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant

(Signed)

JONA. RUSSELL.

To the right honorable

Lord Viscount Castlereagh, &c. &c.

Lord Castlereagh to Mr. Russell.

FOREIGN OFFICE, AUG. 29.

SIR—Although the diplomatic relations between the two governments have been terminated, by a declaration of war on the part of the United States, I have not hesitated, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, and the authority under which you act, to submit to the prince regent the proposition contained in your letter of the 24th

inst. for a suspension of hostilities.

From the period at which your instructions must have been issued, it is obvious, that this overture was determined upon by the government of the U. States, in ignorance of the order in council of the 23d June last, and as you inform me that you are not at liberty to depart from the conditions set forth in your letter, it only remains for me to acquaint you that the Prince Regent feels himself under the necessity of declining to accede to the proposition therein contained, as being on various grounds absolutely inadmissible.

As soon as there was reason to apprehend that Mr. Foster's functions might have ceased in America, and that he might have been obliged to withdraw himself, in consequence of war being declared, from the U. States, before the above mentioned order of the 23d of June, and the instructions consequent thereon, could have reached him, measures were taken for authorizing the British admiral on the American station to propose to the government of the U. States an immediate and reciprocal revocation of all hostile orders, with the tender of giving full effect, in the event of hostilities being discontinued, to the provisions of the said order, upon the conditions therein specified.

From this statement you will perceive that the view you have taken of this part of the subject is incorrect; and that in the present state of the relations between the two countries, the operation of the order of the 23d June can only be defeated by a refusal on the part of your government to desist from hostilities, or comply with the conditions expressed in the said order.

Under the circumstances of your having no powers to negotiate, I must decline entering into a detailed discussion of the propositions which you have been directed to bring forward.

I cannot, however, refrain on one single point from expressing my surprise; namely, that, as a condition, preliminary even to a suspension of hostilities, the government of the United States should have thought fit to demand, that the British government should desist from its ancient and accustomed practice of impressing British seamen from the merchant ships of a foreign state, simply on the assurance that a law shall hereafter be passed to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the public or commercial service of that state.

The British government now, as heretofore, is ready to receive from the government of the U. States, and amicable to discuss, any proposition which professes to have in view either to check abuse in the exercise of the practice of impressment, or to accomplish by means less liable to vexation the object for which impressment has hitherto been found necessary, but they cannot consent to suspend the exercise of a right upon which the naval strength of the empire mainly depends, until they are fully convinced that means can be devised, and will be adopted, by which the object to be obtained by the exercise of that right can be effectually secured.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obed't humble serv't

CASTLEREAGH.

J. Russell, Esq. &c.

ALBANY NOV. 4, 1812.

This day, at 12 o'clock, his Excellency the Governor met both branches of the Legislature, in the Assembly Chamber, and opened the Session with the following.

SPEECH.

Gentlemen of the senate and of the assembly,

A few days after the last adjournment

of the legislature, a declaration of war was officially announced by the United States, against the united kingdom of Great-Britain, and Ireland, and its dependencies. The great exposure of a vast range of our southern, northern, and western frontier to annoyance from the enemy, and to the depredations of savages in alliance with him, rendered the proclamation of hostilities during the recess of the legislature, an event peculiarly interesting to the citizens of this state, and impressed upon the executive, a task of immense responsibility and embarrassment. I considered it obviously a paramount duty to apply the resources which the foresight, and liberality of the legislature had placed at my disposal, in such manner as not only to provide a security for the property and lives of the inhabitants of the frontiers, but also to subserve the national will by facilitating the operations of the general government for a vigorous prosecution of the war, as the most certain means of bringing it to a speedy and honourable termination. My endeavours to accomplish these objects, have been generously seconded by the officers and soldiers of the militia.

It was to be feared whilst Great-Britain held not only the dominion of the ocean, but was permitted to maintain an undisputed supremacy on the lakes also, that the burthen upon the militia of the state in particular, in the first campaign of the war, would be extremely arduous. Accordingly most of the detached militia, together with a considerable number of independent uniform and volunteer companies have been called into actual service, either at New-York, Buffalo, Lewiston, Niagara, Oswego, Sackett's harbour, Ogdensbourg, Plattsburg, or in frontier towns between these places. It affords me great satisfaction, however, to inform you, that it is confidently expected that the appropriation made in June last, to meet the emergency of invasion or war, will be adequate to defray all the expense hitherto incurred on the part of the state.

In reflecting upon the events and consequences of the war from its commencement to the present period, we find more cause of exultation than could reasonably have been expected, considering the pacific structure of our national government: the enjoyment of nearly thirty years of peace, the smallness of our navy, the very limited number of our regular and disciplined troops, and temporary deficiency of many munitions. Nearly as great a proportion of homeward bound merchantmen have escaped capture as has been customary during the last three or four years of peace. The market for the produce of the farmer, has experienced an unexpected and unusual rise instead of a depression. Upon the ocean and the lakes, wherever our gallant tars have come in contact with the enemy, their conduct has given lustre to the Ameri-

can character, and in some instances their achievements have been brilliant beyond example. It cannot but be expected that the general government, impressed with the propriety, the justice, and the indispensable necessity of yielding more ample protection to our commerce, and of rendering the American nation more formidable in war, will increase our naval establishment to the extent warranted by the resources and spirit of the nation.

Although the surrender of the northwestern army is greatly to be deplored, and tended to increase the difficulties which the militia of this state have had to encounter, and to retard the operations of government; and although the attack on Queenston did not eventuate propitiously, yet it cannot for a moment be doubted that the issue of the contest will be glorious to our country. Reverses were to be expected in the first outset of inexperienced troops. These have originated not in a want of valor in our soldiers, or of resources in our country but in the unavoidable difficulties, under existing circumstances, of directing the one, and developing the other, on a sudden emergency with the greatest advantage. In the attack of Queenstown, however, and in the affair of Brownstown, prior to the surrender of Detroit, and on various other occasions, the army and militia have invariably exhibited the deliberate and undaunted bravery of veterans.

I beg leave respectfully to recommend to your consideration the propriety of making suitable provisions for the families of those officers and soldiers of the militia of this state who have been disabled or who have fallen in the battle of Queenstown.

It has not been usual to protract the November meeting of the Legislature beyond the time required to discharge the important trust of designating electors of president and vice-president of the United States. But an imperious duty requires that the care of John Bowman convicted to the crime of murder before Mr. Justice Thompson, at the last court of oyer and terminer held in the county of Herkimer; be submitted to your immediate attention. The official communication of the presiding judge is now delivered. The unequivocal guilt of the convict on the one hand, and his tender years on the other, make your duty with respect to him extremely delicate and responsible. This is the only matter of an extraordinary nature which I shall at present press upon your notice. Should you however be disposed to devote attention; during the present session to other subjects, upon an intimation of that intention I shall do myself the honour of furnishing you by special message, a detailed statement of the arrangements and proceedings which have been adopted subsequently to the declaration of war. In the mean time I cannot refrain from seizing the

earliest opportunity of suggesting some imperfections which experience has pointed out in the existing mode of detaching militia for public service, that the application of suitable remedies may be the subject of your reflection during the recess of the legislature.

All persons above the age of forty-five years, amongst whom it is to be presumed the greatest proportion of wealth is distributed; and a great variety of persons under that age, are exempt from military duty altogether in time of peace, and there is no provision which subjects them to any contribution or duty in time of war. Besides, the penalty for the disobedience of those who are liable to militia duty and who are detached for actual service is pecuniary only, and the fine is neither appropriated to the benefit of those whose circumstances do not enable them to evade actual service in that way, nor to provide substitutes for those who elect to pay the penalty. The consequence is that an affluent portion of the community do not participate in the dangers and burthens of service at all, and many of the most wealthy of those who may be detached avoid taking the field by the payment of a trifling amount, scarcely exceeding the value of the requisite clothing and equipments to fit a soldier for service; whilst the more indigent, perhaps with young families to support, are alone subjected to the sacrifice of supporting the government and defending the lives and property of their fellow-citizens, and receive for their services a compensation which, in comparison with their earnings at home, is but a mere pittance. Every principle of policy & justice requires that some other system be devised by which the hardships and perils of defending the country shall be more equitably diffused.

GENTLEMEN,

Notwithstanding differences of opinion upon a variety of local and other subjects may exist amongst us, yet in the propriety of respecting and of yielding our exertions to support the national will, constitutionally expressed, and to preserve the rights, honour and character of the American nation unimpaired, we must all heartily concur. Inspired by these sentiments, our united efforts, under the smiles of providence, cannot but be honorable to ourselves and conducive to the lasting happiness and prosperity of our beloved country.

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS.

Albany, November 3, 1812.

FOR THE MILITARY MONITOR:

(RUPERT—Concluded.)

Henry the 4th's simplicity and vivacity gave a peculiar charm to all his actions, "*mon ami*," said he to the Baron De Rosney, "*souvenez vous, que la principale partie d'un grand courage et d'un homme de bien, c'est de se ren-*

dre inviolable en sa parole; je ne manquerai jamais à celle que je vous ai donnée"—again before the battle of Coutras, turning to Condé, Conti and De Soissons, he exclaimed; "*souvenez vous, que vous êtes du sang de Bourbon; et, vive Dieu, je vous ferai voir, que je suis votre aîné*" et nous (they replied) *vous monterons que vous avez de bons cadets*" how finely all the speeches of Henry, in public and private, portray his character and happy temper. Turenne possessed, great simplicity of language and manner: but he had not the engaging playfulness of *de bon Henri*: Eugene had more of it, but his was the style of a soldier of fortune: he did like others not only meet danger with firmness; he even made it his amusement; he thought a general commandant ought to be sometimes a *Chevalier d'industrie*; being overthrown and wounded, he says, "they thought me dead and I thought so too." The great Condé possessed a simplicity of a different kind; it was wonderfully sparkling and energetic, and his eagle eye expressed the decision and rapidity of his reflection, style and resolution. Washington's simplicity was grand and awful; it can be compared to nothing we read of in history, and though we may find a resemblance between the poetical character of Diomedes and the real character of Condé, Homer describes no hero like the father of our country.

The demeanor of some men and consequent admiration seem to cast decision on those habits of courtesy so necessary and prevalent in society; when some horses, covered with gold and pearls were presented to Bonaparte by a Turkish ambassador, he did not deign to notice the present, but with an air of indifference, took snuff, merely casting a look on the animals; his mind was intently occupied by fresh troops, his generals were richly dressed, and he without ornament, wearing the great coat he had on at Marengo: a general, however should not be misled by such examples, he will lose more in a moment by an insulting indifference than he will regain by great application; he should be all attention and dignity; for the presence of an individual may do more in danger than ten thousand swords: Leo in his pontifical robes struck such terror into the heart of Atilla, that he relinquished the design of attacking Rome.

Why should one tell us, what books he has read as a proof of his virtue? Dûmourier says, his mind was formed by the study of Plutarch, but he does not mention, whether he made Sylla or Marius, Cæsar or Cato his model, we are indeed too superstitiously attached to

the ancients, notwithstanding their sublime excellencies: a conspirator would certainly turn the page of Sallust for his lesson and every book may teach good or bad according to the disposition of the reader: some, indeed are so heroically moral, that even a wicked mind may be softened by their heating power; Ossian, for instance, which Bonaparte is said to admire, happy for mankind, had he imitated the Hero of the Gallic muse.

It appears to me that the victory of Craulau was obtained by the rapid movement of the King of Prussia; for while the Austrian cavalry of the left wing was forming, the Prussian cavalry attacked its flank and the King rushed on it with the right of his infantry; the Prussian cavalry was fortunate on the left, but obliged to fall back by the right wing of the Austrians, which had been reinforced, the Austrian infantry advanced at the same time to Chotasin while Frederick, victorious on the right, decided the battle, by taking his enemy in flank near the village; 'tis true Lehwald charged from the village, but the attack in flank by the King may be viewed as the finishing those of the action.

RUPERT.

FOR THE MILITARY MONITOR.

Defence of New-York.

No. VIII.

Previous to the commencement of learning the exercise &c. a proper system of discipline should be digested—simple, plain and adopted to the present exigency: and here it may be right to remark that the rage for manœuvre may be put a stop to if it is intended that the militia shall ever become of any use. Complex movements are seldom necessary, but with us performed by men ignorant of priming and loading and officers unacquainted with the method of prolonging a line or working a single company; relatively these imitations of Austerlitz and Jena are worse than useless, they are really mischievous as they tend to waste precious time, give false ideas of duty and consequently encourage ignorance.

A company should be divided into many portions as there should be proper instructors for each. The officers should fall in at first and act as pivots, then as guides, and afterwards as commanders of portions of the company, finally as commanders of a company. They must learn to prolong a line and rapidly cor-

in taking up a new one. They must learn to post themselves in a line with a given object leaving only a sufficient interval for a given number of files such as a half company or company to form therein. They must learn to cover two perpendicular objects on a march, and when in column to cover each other successively; the objects must be frequently changed and they must successively conform to the changes. When they shall have learned these few simple duties, they may be safely entrusted with commands in "a well regulated Militia," non-commissioned officers should be instructed in a similar manner, marching should be taught agreeably to the regulations for the troops of the United States.

The instructors should proceed slowly with the march at first and make the men dwell on the pace with the foot raised a little off the ground till the word "two" should be given. This slow mode, however should not be continued too long for fear of tiring and disgusting the men, who are apt to conceive an aversion to discipline when its application is not rendered sensible: the instructor should therefore explain the nature of every circumstance (even the most minute) that may become necessary in the execution of the commands and on what occasions they may become necessary. This method would amuse the learners and also possess the advantage of presenting truth undisguised by mysterious military pedantry and consequently render it palatable to those whom it would be presented.

Thus they would acquire a fresh spirit for improvement which would advance progressively with the augmentation of their knowledge. Discipline is like wealth or respect, the first attainments are often difficult; afterwards every addition to either becomes easy.

As so many treatises on military discipline have been lately published, it would be superfluous here to enter into the detail of performing the few movements I would recommend to the armed citizens, particularly as a system has been translated for the use of the troops of the line which it is presumed the legislatures of the various states of the union will adopt as the standard whereby to regulate the discipline of the militia in future, this system it appears is not considered free from defects as the general officers are enjoined to point out such alterations and improvements as they, from time to time, shall deem expedient, this is certainly a rational mode of procedure and will I hope at length lead to the discovery, that the whole, as a system, is not calculated for

revolutionary soldier. Such delays must without doubt injure America in its present form, no considerable share of military knowledge is requisite to understand it, happily the "hand book"

Mr. Duane furnishes the Key to this military algebra, and renders it unnecessary for the Colonels, Adjutants and Serjeants Major to trouble the Secretary at war with questions relating to it which he may perhaps not find it easy to answer satisfactorily. **AMICUS.**

The Military Monitor.

NEW-YORK.

MONDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 23, 1812.

TO SUBSCRIBERS, who have not paid the advance subscription to our paper, are requested to comply with the terms of publication.

We, this week, resume the essays of *Amicus* on the defence of New-York: we are promised that they will be continued, without interruption, until finished.

The numbers on the "Art of War" will also be continued after this week.

We have received several remittances in bank notes of distant states, on which we loose a sum, by discount, nearly equal to our contemplated profits—we will, however, be willing to submit to this charge whenever one year's subscription will accompany the order for our paper.

We have expressed our belief that England would soon accept the very pacific offers of the American executive, because it was the interest of England to accept them and because they were the best terms she ever could obtain.—The official documents laid before, congress, would lead to a different conclusion. It is not our province to say how far the finger of Providence directs the fate of nations, but surely the destiny of England seems fixed by some hidden or irreversible decree, and we cannot refrain from exclaiming "*Quem Deus vult perdere prius dementat.*" The representative of a crazy king now rules the British nation; this youth of 50 years of age, for such his boyish conduct proclaims him, unwilling to retire from the profligate life which formed his whole conduct as Prince of Wales, leaves to his ministers the entire management of the Royal functions—their incapacity or their dishonesty leaves to the British nation a most melancholy presage of their future destiny. "The king cannot do wrong" is a part of the law or unwritten constitution of England. One ministry is not accountable for the errors of another—may it not then be hoped that

the avarice of the present ministers may be soon satiated, & that their successors will accept the best terms which America will give, and that peace will be the consequence. A book was published in England, about 40 years ago, entitled "The history of the Church," this book was confined to an explanation of the apocalypse of St. John, and, from an interpretation of one of the obscure passages of that book, deduced, that the government of England must cease by a gradual decline in the year 1825. Is not the history of England, at least for 50 years past, such as to induce the reader to become proselyte to the doctrine maintained in the 'history of the church.'

PULPIT POLITICS.

"*Ne sutor ultra crepidam.*" What would be thought of a senator who would rise in his place in congress; and, beginning with a text from scripture, deliver a long sermon? The Divine, who will ponder on this question, will easily conceive the opinion which will be formed of the preacher who would amuse his auditors by a political lecture from the pulpit, sermons and politics are both good, but each should be in its right place—if it be right that one preacher should deliver politics from his pulpit, it is equally right in every other preacher, and if one time be right, who can say what time is wrong: the religious might, in such case, stay at home, and the politician only go to church. How ridiculous would it appear to hear a Senator commence a speech in the Senate, with the text—"Blessed are the poor in spirit" not less ridiculous would it be to hear a preacher on entering the pulpit, exclaim "we are all federalists, we are all republicans."

Yet both these expressions are good, and objectionable only from the manner of using them—a transposition of the duties of the clergyman and the politician is wrong; a confusion of their duties, not less so.

Extract of a letter to the Editors, dated Canton (Ohio.) Novr. 6 1812.

"I have just parted with general Crooks' brigade in full march for the rapids of the Miami: they departed from Pittsburg on the 19th. ulto. and left a detachment to escort the artillery, which they expected to move after them about the 22d. the march of the troops has consequently been slow, not exceeding, on some days, 10 or 12 miles. The guns have not yet joined and I understand will not leave Pittsburg till the middle or end of this month, as the whole of the field-piece and howitzer-carriages had to be made there under the superintendence of major Craig, an old re-

be embarrassing to the commanders who would wish to calculate on future movements.—The occasional entrusting of the transportation of ordnance to ordinary waggoners, who feel no particular interest in the manner or time when the duty will be performed, is wrong—the following example will elucidate my observation—I lately stopped at a tavern where was also quartered a waggoner with a light brass six pounder, destined for Erie—It was French make, cast at the foundry of La Jeune, Paris 1793. So little interest did the waggoner feel respecting its delivery, that he endeavoured to bargain with a stranger to convey it the remainder of the way, assigning as a reason for this desire, *that his corn was not yet got in.*

This gun was not in good order, & the *haussé*, that all important aid attached only to French guns, was nearly useless, as the graduated scale was hardly legible, owing to friction. The soldiers of the Western country are brave, and their numbers, and devotion to the cause in which they are engaged, will compensate for any want of discipline—with a sufficiency of the munitions of war, which it is presumed will be seasonably supplied, these men will soon give peace to the United States, and the blessings of liberty to Canada."

Extract of another letter to the Editors, dated Rome (N. Y.) Nov. 18, 1812.

"Commodore Chauncey has actually captured two British vessels on the lake, a sloop and schooner. Col. Brock relative of the late Gen. Brock was taken prisoner; and it is said, and generally believed, *that the body of the General, was also on board in a hogshead of spirits*"*

* We have seen it related, in several papers, that the General was buried with military honors near Newark—if so, the account of his being taken prisoner in a hogshead of spirits is not probable. *EDITORS.*

Washington City, Nov. 12.

Copy of a letter received yesterday by the secretary of the navy from com. RODGERS: *U. S. Frigate President, at sea, Oct. 17.*

Sir—I have the honor to acquaint you that on the 15th inst. near the Grand Bank, this ship, the Congress in company, captured the British king's packet Swallow, Joseph Morphew, commander, bound from Kingston, Jamaica, to Falmouth. The rank of the commander of this vessel, is that of a master and commander in the navy.—She had no cargo in, except eighty-one boxes of gold and silver, amounting to between 1 hundred & 50 & 2 hundred thousand dollars; The specie I took

out of her, and had intended sending her to England in the character of a cartel, with her own crew; Having fallen in at this moment, however, with the American schr. Eleanor, bound from Baltimore to France, dismasted, induced me to change my first determination, and instead of sending her to England have sent her to the U. States in charge of the master and crew of the before mentioned schooner, who at the moment of writing this have charge of the Swallow with the schooner in tow, but which, as soon as the weather will permit, they intend abandoning, after having taken her cargo on board the Swallow.

I parted company with the United States and Argus five days since; they are not however far from me at present, I apprehend.

We have not seen a single British vessel of war as yet, except one frigate, which the want of wind and the approach of night prevented our chasing with any effect; although from information afterwards received we must have passed venear a squadron of five frigates the evening preceding that on which we saw the one before mentioned. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your obedient servant.

JOHN RODGERS.

Hon. Paul Hamilton Sec'y of the Navy.

CONGRESS.

OF THE UNITED STATES.

The first business that occupied congress was of course the consideration of the president's message.

THE SENATE came to the following resolutions on the 6th of November.

First, That so much of the president's message as concerns our relations with foreign powers, and the military establishment of the United States and volunteers, should be referred to a select committee, with leave to report thereon, by bill or otherwise.

Secondly, That so much of the president's message as relates to the naval establishment of the U. States, should be referred to a select committee, with leave to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

Thirdly, That so much of the president's message as relates to American vessels which have arrived in the U. S. laden with British manufactures, should be referred to a select committee, with leave to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

And lastly, That so much of the president's message as relates to a revision of

the militia laws of the U. States should be referred to a select committee, with leave to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES lost no time in expressing their sentiments on that part of the president's message with referred to the gallant conduct of Captain Hull and the victory of the U. S. ship Constitution over the Guerriere.

This business was opened by Mr. Dawson in a motion which he said he was pleased, and indeed proud to reflect, would meet with the unanimous approbation of the congress and the country at large. He then called the attention of the house to the particular part of the president's message, to which he paid a warm tribute of applause for the eloquence and appropriate language in which justice had been rendered to the officers and crew of the Constitution, for their conduct in the engagement with the Guerriere, an engagement in which our brave seamen had demonstrated that when commanded by able and gallant officers, they were capable of contending with any people upon earth, even with the British on that element where they had justly acquired so much celebrity, and proved that the American flag was capable of enforcing respect on the great high way of nations, the ocean. Mr. Dawson deprecated boasting as unbecoming in an individual or in a people, and as being rarely the concomitant of true valour. Yet he thought it but fit for the house to express in due form their sentiments and feelings on this important occasion in the name and on behalf of the nation. He therefore submitted the following resolution.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, That the president of the United States be, and he is hereby requested to present, in the name of congress, to captain Isaac Hull, a gold medal with suitable emblems and devices; and that the sum of dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to be distributed as prize money to the officers and crew of the United States frigate the Constitution, of 44 guns, according to the provisions of the act for the better government of the navy of the United States; in testimony of the high sense entertained by congress of the gallantry, good conduct and services of captain Hull, the officers and crew of the frigate Constitution, in attacking, vanquishing & capturing the British frigate the Guerriere, mounting 54 carriage guns, hereby exhibiting an example highly honourably to the Ame-

rican character, and instructive to our rising navy.

A conversation arose on this resolution, in the course of which Mr. Seyber suggested the giving a medal or some other mark of distinction to the crew.—And Mr. Wright hoped that all the other officers should receive swords, and the men suitable rewards—Mr. Wright expressed his hope that a gold medal would be voted to the nearest relation of **LIEUTENANT BUSH** of the marines, who fell in the action fighting gallantly and covered with wounds and with glory: To which end he moved that the resolution should be referred to a select committee.

In consequence of this, the resolution was ordered to lie on the table till a committee should be appointed to report upon it.

The following message was received from the president.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

The bill entitled "An act supplementary to the acts heretofore passed on the subject of an uniform rule of naturalization," which passed the two houses at the last session of congress, having appeared to me liable to abuse by aliens having no real purpose of effectuating a naturalization, and therefore not being signed, and having been presented at an hour too near the close of the session to be returned with objections for reconsideration, the bill failed to become a law, I recommend that provision be now made in favour of aliens, entitled to the contemplated benefit under such regulations as will prevent advantages being taken of it for improper purposes.

This message was referred to a select committee of five.

On motion of Mr. Cheves, the president's message was referred upon the following points. Each to a select committee, viz.

- 1st. The subject of foreign relations.
- 2d. The militia, volunteers and the army.
- 3d. The naval establishment.
- 4th. The subjects of revenue and the importation of British manufactures were referred to the committee of ways and means.
- 5th. The subject of British licences, and of cases of corrupt and perfidious intercourse with the enemy—were referred to the committee of commerce & manufactures.

A motion made by Mr. Harper to instruct the committee of commerce and manufactures to consider of the expediency of prohibiting the exportation of flour and bread stuffs was negatively.

On the 9th of November a resolution passed the House of Representatives, instructing the Committee on military affairs, to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the exemption of soldiers and noncommissioned officers from arrest for debt when called into service. (*Bureau.*)

Summary.

It appears by the last accounts from the Wabash, that Gen. Hopkins crossed that river at Fort Harrison on the 10th October with two thousand men. He has taken with him provisions for ten days; and it is understood that he intends to direct his march to Pecces, a Kickapou village, on the Illinois, whilst colonel Russell of the United States' army, will proceed up the river, keeping open the communication between the General and himself, in order to act as circumstances may require.

It is understood that another expedition up the Wabash, and towards Lake Michigan was contemplated to set out from Fort Harrison on or before the 1st of this month, to be performed in forty days. The expedition is to consist of three regiments of infantry from Kentucky, & 70 or 80 regulars from the Indian country, amounting in the whole to 17 or 18 hundred men. May their endeavours be crowned with success!

We are informed that a part of the Pennsylvania troops have arrived at Franklinton, or their way to the head quarters of the North Western Army. Active operations will be immediately resumed, & important events may be soon expected.

On Sunday the 8th inst. the squadron at Sacket's Harbour, under Commodore Chauncey, consisting of the brig Oneida and seven schooners, mounting (in all) forty-four guns, sailed, and chased into Kingston Bay the Royal George and schooner Simcoe; and after a severe cannonade from the Fort, the fleet returned with the loss of one seaman killed by the enemy, & several wounded on board one of the American ships, by the bursting of a gun. The fleet brought into Sacket's Harbour two prizes, merchant vessels, on board of one of which was Capt. Brock, nephew of the late Gen. Brock. The fleet sailed again on Friday night last in pursuit of the Duke of Gloucester and Prince Regent [British armed vessels].—*Cooke's Journal of the times.*

By a gentleman just arrived from St. Mary's we learn that Col. Newman, with his men, have arrived near St. Johns, and joined Capt. Kinsley. In the different skirmishes Col N. has had with the Indians, he had 7 men killed, and 16 wounded; and has brought in 16 scalps, but knows not how many he wounded, from their practice of not leaving any wounded on the field of battle.—*Savannah Museum, Oct. 29.*

Extract of a letter from Washington, dated Nov. 17, 1812.

"The committee of Ways and Means had leave granted them yesterday to sit during the session of the house. The probability therefore is that they will report at an early day, on such subjects as have been referred to them. The goods seized under the provisions of the non-intercourse should receive their first attention, and most likely will; a favourable report is anticipated."—*Mer. Adv.*

We are informed that the Legislature of Vermont have passed a law for raising seven regiments of Volunteers. The act provides that each soldier shall receive thirty dollars bounty, and have his wages made up ten dollars per month.

On a full view of the few events of the past week, the reader will find nothing to damp the hopes entertained from the patriotic and military ardor of our citizens. The documents laid before congress state the terms on which peace will be given to Britain; and if there is a citizen who wishes for peace on less favorable terms, if there is a citizen who would sheathe the sword while a fellow citizen remains in British bondage, to such we would say "you deserve not to be free"—lake Ontario has been scoured by the American navy, Commodore Rodgers has taken a valuable prize, and he will, whether successful or not, behave worthy of the confidence placed in him; the greatest exertions are making for forwarding the objects of the campaign, in so much that something must be attempted—the troops will not remain long inactive and a few days must determine whether they will be able to take up their winter quarters in Canada.

The Marshall of South Carolina has detained in custody twelve British subjects as hostages for the safety of five seamen and one boy taken out of the privateer Sarah Anne lately captured by the British—these six persons were sent to Jamaica to be tried for their lives as British subjects. It is to be hoped that the vigorous conduct of the marshall will secure to these 6 persons (2 born in Ireland and 4 in the United States) a protection which they could not obtain during the kind of peace which we experienced for years before the declaration of war.

FOREIGN.

We have no accounts of operations of the French armies against Russia later than those already detailed—great exertion will probably be made for the defence of Moscow, but Moscow is not capable of a long siege and fears seems to be entertained that it must fall into the power of the French. Riga continued in a state of siege and was likely to make a long defence—should it surrender, little obstruction could be opposed to the French Emperor in his progress towards St. Petersburg.

Nothing new has been received from Spain. It is not known what number of French troops have lately entered that country, or what will be the probable consequent conduct of the British commander.

The following extract of a letter from England will show that the licences, which they granted to Americans, were intended to be continued only while useful to England—they wanted our flour, and they wanted to sell us their manufactures. Alas! they have gained these two points.

Extract of a letter from Messrs. Baring, Brothers & Co. of London, dated 24th Sept. 1812.

"Our government have refused to grant any more Licences to import provisions from America, which we presume will put an end to our exports during the War. The crops in every part of Europe are abundant, & Spain and Portugal will be amply supplied from the Black Sea, Mediterranean, Barbara, Baltic &c.—*Phil. Pap.*

Extracts.

MESSENGER OFFICE

Canandaigua, Nov. 1812.

We hasten to lay before our readers the important hand-bill, which was this day politely handed us by Lieut. Roosevelt, who is ordered by Gen. Smyth to "proceed to the counties of Ontario, Seneca & Cayuga, to bring on such volunteers as will agree to cross the river Niagara into Canada, and perform a month's duty in the army.

TO THE MEN OF NEW-YORK.

For many years you have beheld your country oppressed with numerous wrongs. Your government, although above all others devoted to peace, have been forced to draw the sword, and rely for redress of injuries on the valor of the American people.

The valor has been conspicuous.—But the nation has been unfortunate in the selection of some of those who have directed it. One army has been disgracefully surrendered and lost. Another has been sacrificed by a precipitate attempt to pass it over at the strongest point of the enemy's lines, with most incompetent means. The cause of these miscarriages is apparent. The commanders were popular men, "destitute alike of theory and experience" in the art of war.

In a few days, the troops under my command will plant the American standard in Canada. They are men accustomed to obedience, silence and steadiness. They will conquer, or they will die.

Will you stand with your arms folded, and look on this interesting struggle? Are you not related to the men who fought at Bennington and Saratoga? Has the race degenerated? Or have you under the baleful influence of contending factions forgot your country? Must I turn from you, and ask the men of the six nations to support the government of the United States? Shall I imitate the officers of the British king, and suffer our ungathered laurels to be tarnished with ruthless deeds?—Shame where is thy blush? No—Wherever I command, the vanquished and the peaceful man, the child, the maid, and the matron, shall be secure from wrong. If we conquer, we will "conquer but to save"

MEN OF NEW-YORK!

The present is the hour of renown. Have you not a wish for fame? Would you not choose in future to be named one of those, who, imitating the heroes, whom Montgomery led, have in spite of

the seasons, visited the tomb of the chief, and conquered the country where he lies? Yes—You desire your share of fame. Then seize the present moment. If you do not you will regret it; and say "the valiant have bled in vain," the friends of my country tell, "and I was not there."

Advance then to our aid. I will wait for you a few days. I cannot give you the day of my departure. But come on. Come in companies, half companies, pairs or singly. I will organize you for a short tour. Ride to this place, if the distance be too far, and send back your horses. But remember, that every man who accompanies us, places himself under my command, and shall submit to the salutary restraints of discipline.

ALEXR. SMYTH, brig gen.
Camp near Buffalo, 10th Nov. 1812.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the navy, to a gentleman in Philadelphia, dated,

"Sacket's Harbour, Nov. 5.

"Our 24 gun ship comes on rapidly. One grand attack will be made, we have no doubt of success and little opposition, unless they officer their vessels with lads of the royal navy. A provincial navy officer is too similar to a militia man.—With the force they possess, and the unprotected situation the brig Oneida was placed in for a length of time after the declaration of war, they shewed their want of skill and energy if not entirely destroying her.

"To morrow morning we can sail with the following force;

"Brig Oneida, (flag ship) eighteen 24lb. carronades, and 140 men, exclusive of officers and marines.

"Schr. Gov. Tompkins, lieut. Brown, one 32, and one 24, four 32lb. carronades, & 60 men, exclusive of officers and marines.

"Schr. Conquest, lieut. Elliott, one 32, one 24, and two 9's and 35 men, exclusive of officers and marines.

"Schr. Diana, lieut. M'Pherson, eight 18lb carronades, two 6's and 35 men, exclusive of officers and marines.

"Schr. Growler, sailing master Mix, one 32 pounder, two 6's, and 30 men, exclusive of officers and marines.

"There will shortly be in readiness four schrs. in addition to the above."

The following additional instruction has been given to the public and private armed vessels of the U. States:

"The public and private armed vessels of the United States are not to interrupt any British unarmed vessels bound to Sable Island, and laden with supplies for the humane establishment whom Montgomery led, have in spite of that place.

"By command of the President of the United States, &c.

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TERMS.

This Map will be delivered at the moderate price of Three Dollars, executed in a superior style, and elegantly coloured.

New-York, October 21, 1812.

The Gentlemen's Musical Repository.

THE subscriber begs leave to inform the public that the above work is now in considerable forwardness, and will be ready for delivery on the 1st of December next. The very extensive patronage which he has met, made it requisite to enlarge the number intended for the first edition, 500 copies, and consequently produced an unexpected delay in the publication. The size of the work has also (as a proof of the author's gratitude) been enlarged from 30 pages half quarto, to 48 pages quarto, being an increase of eight quarto pages—this form will also be more convenient to the musician.

Gentlemen wishing to subscribe for this work, will please to direct by letters, post paid, to the Shanrock Office 24 William-street, New-York. CHARLES F. O'HARA.

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